St. Francis Xavier Church (Newtowne)

SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT
DECEMBER 8, 2019

Newtowne Mission from 1640  First Chapel Built 1662
Current Church Built 1731

Oldest Catholic Church
in Original Thirteen Colonies

Reverend Robert G. Maro, Pastor
sfxparishmd@gmail.com
William J. Nickerson, Deacon
Judith Gwynn, Parish Secretary
sfxparishoffice1662@gmail.com
Denise Becher, Bookkeeper
sfxbookkeeper@gmail.com

Mailing address: 21370 Newtowne Neck Road
Leonardtown MD 20650
Telephone: 301-475-9885
Fax: 301-475-5662

Web: stfrancisxavierchurch.org
Tour: roundme.com/tour/249939/view/733

Welcome new parishioners!
Registration forms are in the church vestibule
and on our parish website

Sunday Masses
Saturday 4pm (Anticipated), Sunday 8am and 11am

Daily Masses
Monday, Wednesday, Thursday, Friday 8am

Holy Day Masses
As announced in the bulletin

Confessions
Saturdays after the 4pm Mass, Sundays 7:30-7:50am
& 10:30-10:50am, and by appointment

First Friday Adoration
8:30-9:30am—Benediction at 9:20am

Baptisms: By appointment with Father

Marriages: Make arrangements with your Pastor
at least six months in advance; call the Rectory

Religious Education Classes
Email Paula McLeod, paula.mcleod@gmail.com

Bulletin Items
Send items to sfx1640bulletin@gmail.com
Deadline is Friday, one week before Sunday date
THIS WEEK

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 8
SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT
*Second Collection: Retired Religious in the US
*Snack Pack for Kids collection
*Food Bank collection

MONDAY, DECEMBER 9
Mass for the Immaculate Conception: 8am
This year the Solemnity is NOT a day of obligation.

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 12
*Book Club: 9am, Parish Hall

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 13
*Family Film Night: 7pm, Parish Hall

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 14
*This Man Is You!: 6:30am, Parish Hall

LOOKING AHEAD

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 15
THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT
*Second Collection: Maintenance Fund
*Christmas Flower Fund envelopes due
*Giving Tree Gifts due!

SHARING OUR TREASURE
NOVEMBER 24, 2019

Offertory 11/24 $1,160.00
Online giving 11/24 $820.00
Bazaar $4,999.80

Offertory reporting will be delayed by one week this month, due to early submission deadlines from our bulletin publisher.
We apologize for any inconvenience!

“It is the beautiful task of Advent to awaken in all of us memories of goodness and thus to open doors of hope.”
—Pope Emeritus Benedict XVI (1927-present)

ST. FRANCIS XAVIER’S ANGEL TREE PROJECT IS SPONSORING 24 CHILDREN ACROSS ST. MARY’S COUNTY THIS CHRISTMAS SEASON.

There is a small tree in the back of the Church with tags. Each tag lists toys or clothing items requested by the families for their child.

How it works: Once you have chosen your tag(s), purchase one or more of the gifts listed on the back of the tag. Return your unwrapped gifts and the tag (for tracking purposes) to the tree by Sunday, December 15. Gifts will be collected each Sunday after 11am Mass.

Monetary donations are accepted to cover the gifts if you prefer not to shop. Donations of wrapping paper are also needed.

Please contact Veronica Johnson at 240-298-8194 or vmjohnson0716@gmail.com if you have any questions. We hope that this will become a new tradition for our Parish, and we truly appreciate your generosity!
**An Advent Evening of Scripture and Song!**
The Festival of Lessons and Carols is a service of Scripture and song that dates to the late 19th century. In this service, we listen to seven Scripture lessons. Each lesson is followed by a carol or other song that reflects on the lesson’s message and a brief prayer. Sunday, Dec 22, 4pm, in the church — join us afterwards for a light reception in the Parish Hall. Invite friends and family to join us for this traditional service!

**Do you know someone who is homebound or residing in a nursing home and who would benefit from a visit or Communion call?**
Please call or email the rectory and let us reach out to those parishioners unable to attend Mass. Email sfxparishmd@gmail.com or call 301-475-9885.

**December 7 & 8 Second Collection**

Today’s second collection supports thousands of senior Catholic sisters, brothers, and religious order priests who spent years working in Catholic schools, hospitals, and agencies — often for little or no pay. Now, their religious communities do not have enough savings for retirement and eldercare. Your gift helps provide medications, nursing care, and more. Thank you for your generosity.

**The Joy of the Holidays can be misery for some. This is why January is often called “Divorce Month.” The misery that many couples feel can push them past the breaking point. Retrouvaille can help.**
**LEARN HOW TO DEFEND YOUR FAITH**

Weekly Apologetics classes on Mondays, 7pm in the St. Aloysius hall.

**Upcoming Topics:**
12/9 Are We Living in the End Times?
12/16 Is the Nativity Story Historically Accurate?
No session 12/23 or 12/30
1/6 Defending the Jesuit Missions to India
1/13 Spanish Inquisition: Fact and Fiction

Complete list at saintaloysiuschurch.org/news/apologetics-series.

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**NEWTOWNE MANOR HOUSE RESTORATION**

**Donations to:**
St. Francis Xavier Church
21370 Newtowne Neck Road
Leonardtown MD 20650

**Memo line:** Manor House Restoration

**For more information:**
LYNN DELAHAY, 204-925-6485
GEORGE MATISICK, 301-475-9698
NEWTOWNEMANORHOUSE@GMAIL.COM

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**FATHER ANDREW WHITE SCHOOL CRUSADER CONNECTIONS**

**Cookies with Santa, Santa Shop, & SCRIP**

**Cards:** Ho! Ho! Ho! Santa Claus will be making a special visit to FAW School on Sun, Dec 15 from 12pm-2pm. Enjoy a variety of cookies, coffee, a hot chocolate bar, reindeer games, letters to Santa, a scavenger hunt, a craft station, goodies for the children to take home and more! Bring your phones and/or cameras for photo opportunities or you may choose to have your family’s picture taken and printed instantly!

**Cost:** Children 12 & under: Free, Adults: $5.

Your children can feel the joy of giving this Christmas when they buy presents at the Santa Shop — all gifts are $3! Plus, gift will be wrapped for you and ready to go under your tree. **SCRIP cards** will also be available for purchase on site to meet other holiday shopping needs! See you there!

**The Virtue of Patience:** Our parish school is participating in a *Virtues in Practice* program this year. Each month, the whole school focuses on the same virtue as they hope to grow closer to Jesus by imitating His life and virtues. They also learn more about the saints who exemplify these good habits. This month students and their families are learning about the virtue of Patience. Please join them by praying for the children to wait or endure without complaint during the month of December.

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**THE HOLY FATHER’S INTENTION FOR DECEMBER:**

**The Future of the Very Young**

That every country take the measures necessary to prioritize the future of the very young, especially those who are suffering.

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**PRACTICES FOR CHRISTMAS EVE**

will be held at noon on Sun 12/1, 12/15, 12/22. Questions?

Email Bob Schaller, schaller@md.metrocast.net.

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**ADVENT SERVICE**

At St. George parish, Valley Lee, on Fri, Dec 20 at 7pm. Prayer, scripture, and music, featuring parish lectors, musicians, including some special guest musicians. A reception will follow in the church vestibule. All are welcome!

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**WE PRAY THE ROSARY**

† At 7:30AM before our weekday Masses (Mon, Wed, Thu, Fri)

† 30 Minutes Before all Masses

The First Sunday of Each Month
Dear Parish Family,

Here’s a beautiful poem/reflection for Advent:
The four candles burned slowly. Their Ambiance was so soft you could hear them speak...
The first candle said, “I Am Peace, but these days, nobody wants to keep me lit.” Then Peace’s flame slowly diminishes and goes out completely.
The second candle said, “I Am Faith, but these days, I am no longer indispensable.” Then Faith’s flame slowly diminishes and goes out completely.
Sadly the third candle speaks, “I Am Love and I haven’t the strength to stay lit any longer. People put me aside and don’t understand my importance. They even forget to love those who are nearest to them.” Waiting no longer, Love goes out completely. Suddenly...A child enters the room and sees the three candles no longer burning. The child begins to cry, “Why are you not burning? You are supposed to stay lit until the end!”

Then the fourth candle speaks gently to the little child, “Don’t be afraid, for I Am Hope, and while I still burn, we can re-light the other candles.” With shining eyes the child took the candle of hope and lit the other three candles.

Never let the flame of hope go out of your life. With hope, no matter how bad things look and are...peace, faith and love can shine brightly in our lives.
— Author Unknown

Faithfully in Christ,
Father Rob

Saturday – December 7
St. Ambrose
4pm — Sally Wise †

Sunday – December 8
Second Sunday of Advent
8am — St. Francis Xavier Parish
11am — Robert Randolph Maro †

Monday – December 9
Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary
8am — Pauline House †

Tuesday – December 10
No Mass

Wednesday – December 11
St. Damasus
8am — Doug Woodburn †

Thursday – December 12
Our Lady of Guadalupe
8am — Sally Wise †

Friday – December 13
St. Lucy
8am — Charles Downs †

Saturday – December 14
St. John of the Cross
4pm — Pauline House †

Sunday – December 15
Third Sunday of Advent
8am — St. Francis Xavier Parish
11am — Doug Woodburn †


Our beloved dead: Bernard Ralph Lawrence Jr.

Email sfxparishmd@gmail.com and let us join in prayer for one another. If you are seriously ill or preparing for a surgery, call the Parish Office to arrange for the sacrament of anointing.